DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY D. ZACHARY DATE 3/18/83
EDS [ ] or XDS [ ] EXT. DATE
TS MCH REASON(S)
RELEASE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ]
DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE [ ]
RELEASE DENIED [ ]
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Nov 21 6 17 PM '61
DCT only

OUTGOING AIRGRAM

# Department of State

Origin E-13

Info: RMR-7 EUR-15 INR-8 CIA-1C CAB-8 FAA-5

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

NO. A-61

SENT TO: Amembassy, BRUSSELS



Department's records do not indicate that Belgian authorities have issued any official statements or reports on its investigation of the Sabena Boeing 707 aircraft accident on February 15, 1961. Also, we have no information regarding the approximate date on which the accident investigation report is expected to be released or if public hearings on the accident have been held or are scheduled in the near future.

In the absence of specific information from official sources on the above points, the Department has had to assume the Belgian authorities have not issued statements or reports on the investigation. As the Embassy is undoubtedly aware, the Department has received many inquiries from interested parties, including the Congress, for information on various aspects of the accident and status of the investigation.

Since it is absolutely necessary for the Department to answer authoritatively the inquiries being received in connection with this accident, the Embassy is requested to ascertain, as expeditiously as possible, whether the Belgian authorities have issued any reports or public statements on their investigation of the accident or have held interviews which could be considered official in nature. If so, copies of such material should be forwarded promptly to the Department.

Aside from the Embassy's reports on European press coverage of the accident, some analyses of the accident have appeared in the United States press. This has led interested parties to the conclusion that the Belgian authorities have held official interviews or have issued official statements and have permitted some unofficial persons to review factual information thus far developed in the investigation.

The Embassy

Dist. Desired (Offices Only)

Brussels 155 1-61 9 55 AM 11-21-61

Microfilmed by RMR

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

Drafted by: TRC:AV:GPVarros:gb 11/20/61

Airgram transmission and classification approved by: AV:HTSnowdon

Clearances: TRC EAL S/S CR WE - Mr. Beaudry (substance)

NOV 21 1961 PM

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
*Classification*

The Embassy may be interested in knowing that various parts of the equipment of the aircraft have been received by the United States Civil Aeronautics Board from the Belgian authorities. United States authorities will conduct certain tests on this equipment as agreed to by United States representatives when they met with Nottet and other members of the Belgian Investigation Commission at Brussels in June to review material developed in the investigation. The tests have not yet been conducted.

RUSK

Rusk
3

[redacted]